

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of variable-pitch spacing and turning or, reversibly, turning and variable-pitch spacing of work pieces in production of disposable absorbent articles, comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing said work pieces disposed at a first pitch between each other;
 - (b) providing a spacing apparatus capable of changing said first pitch to a second pitch;
 - (c) providing a turning apparatus capable of turning said work pieces about an axis perpendicular to a plane of said work pieces, said turning apparatus having rotating devices spaced at said second pitch capable of changing by a radial movement of said rotating devices;
 - (d) spacing said work pieces with the spacing apparatus from said first pitch to said second pitch; and
 - (e) turning said work pieces with said turning apparatus about said axis.
2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said disposable absorbent articles are feminine hygiene articles, diapers, and body wraps.
3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said work pieces are individual components of disposable absorbent articles, combinations of components forming semi-finished or finished disposable absorbent articles.
4. (Original) The method of Claim 3 wherein said individual components of disposable absorbent articles include absorbent cores, single sheets, or laminated sheets.
5. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said first pitch is smaller than said second pitch.

6. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said first pitch is greater than said second pitch.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein step (d) precedes step (e).
8. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein step (e) precedes step (d).
9. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said first pitch is variable from about 20 mm to about 450 mm.
10. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said second pitch is variable from about 20 mm to about 450 mm.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of turning includes clockwise turning and/or counter clockwise turning.
12. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein said turning apparatus is capable of spacing said work pieces.